CLAIMS

1. A document delivery system comprising:

a storage device to store a plurality of received content objects; and

5   a virtual editor, to selectively retrieve one or more of the received content objects

to construct a publication for a requesting user based, at least in part, on a user profile of

the requesting user.

2. A document delivery system according to claim 1, wherein the user profile

10   includes information regarding a user's interests.

3. A document delivery system according to claim 2, wherein the information

comprising the user profile acquired using covert processes and overt processes.

4. A document delivery system according to claim 1, wherein the virtual editor

15   constructs the publication based, at least in part, on one or more key contributors and

information retrieved from a personal profile.

5. A document delivery system according to claim 4, wherein the key

20   contributors include one or more of a requesting/subscribing user's interests,

demographics, seasonality, document server requirements, and content provider usage

criteria.

6.   A document delivery system according to claim 1, wherein the virtual editor comprises:

a content manager, to receive content objects from one or more of a plurality of content providers and store the content objects for subsequent inclusion in publications; 5   and

a construction agent, coupled to the content manager, to retrieve one or more content objects from which a personalized publication is generated for a requesting/subscribing user.

10   **7.**   A document delivery system according to claim 6, wherein the content manager encapsulates received content objects in a non-invasive marking wrapper including a unique marker to identify distribution, receipt and user disposition of the content object throughout the document distribution system.

15   **8.**   A document delivery system according to claim 7, further comprising:

one or more virtual sensors, distributed throughout the document delivery system, to identify distribution, receipt and user disposition of content objects and to provide indications of distribution, receipt and user disposition to the content manager.

20   **9.**   A document delivery system according to claim 8, wherein the content manager initiates financial transactions with one or more of the plurality of content providers based, at least in part, on the indications received from the one or more virtual sensors.

10. A document delivery system according to claim 6, wherein the construction agent retrieves content objects for a publication based, at least in part, on a user profile and one or more content provider key contributors.

11. A document delivery system according to claim 1, wherein the virtual editor constructs a publication based, at least in part, on content provider format recommendations and/or usage criteria.

12. A document delivery system according to claim 11, wherein the content provider format recommendations and/or usage criteria define limitations of publishing select content objects from one content provider with respect to content objects from another content provider.

13. A document delivery system according to claim 1, wherein the virtual editor constructs a publication based, at least in part, on one or more of a season of publication, a location of the requesting user, user demographics, document server requirements, and content provider usage criteria.

14. A storage medium comprising a plurality of executable instructions including at least a subset of which, when executed, implement a virtual editor according to claim 1.

15. A method of generating a publication comprising:

receiving one or more content objects from one or more content providers;

storing the received content objects; and

dynamically generating a publication selectively using one or more of the received content objects based, at least in part, on a user profile of a requesting user.

16. A method according to claim 15, further comprising:

publishing the dynamically generated publication in accordance with content provider usage criteria; and

distributing the publication to the requesting user.

17. A method according to claim 16, wherein the content provider usage criteria define limitations on publishing content objects of one content provider with respect to content objects from another content provider.

18. A method according to claim 16, wherein the content provider usage criteria limit publication of content objects from competing content providers.

19. A method according to claim 16, wherein the publication is distributed through an electronic document delivery system.

20. A method according to claim 19, further comprising:

receiving indications from one or more sensors distributed throughout the document delivery system denoting distribution, receipt and/or user disposition of one or more of the content objects comprising the publication.

21. A method according to claim 20, further comprising:

updating user profile information based, at least in part, on the received indications.

22. A method according to claim 20, wherein the received indications include information regarding one or more of an amount of time the user spent on the received publication, whether the user saved the publication, whether the user forwarded the publication to another, whether the user edited/altered the publication.

23. A method according to claim 20, further comprising:

initiating financial transactions with one or more select content providers based, at least in part, on the received indications.

24. A method according to claim 15, wherein storing the received content objects comprises:

encapsulating the received content objects in a unique, non-invasive wrapper uniquely identifying the content objects; and

saving the encapsulated content objects in an accessible storage medium for subsequent use.

25. A method according to claim 24, further comprising:

distributing constructed publication to one or more requesting users through an electronic document delivery system.

26. A method according to claim 25, further comprising:

receiving indications from one or more sensors distributed throughout the document delivery system denoting distribution, receipt and user disposition of at least one or more content objects associated with the publication.

27.   A method according to claim 26, wherein the one or more sensors identify the at least one or more content objects by their non-invasive markers.

28.   A method according to claim 26, further comprising:

5   initiating financial transactions with one or more select content providers based, at least in part, on the received indications.

29.   A method according to claim 26, further comprising:

updating user profile information based, at least in part, on the received

10   indications.

30.   A storage medium comprising a plurality of executable instructions including at least a subset of which that, when executed, implement a method according to claim 15.

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31.   A computing device comprising:

a storage medium to store a plurality of executable instructions; and

a controller, coupled to the storage medium, to execute at least a subset of the stored executable instructions and implement a method according to claim 15.

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32.   A storage device comprising a plurality of executable instructions including at least a subset of which that, when executed, implement a virtual editor service to receive content objects from one or more content providers, store the received content objects, and to selectively retrieve content objects to construct a publication in accordance

25   with at least a user profile of a requesting user.

33. A storage device according to claim 32, wherein the virtual editor service constructs the publication in accordance with other key contributors including one or more of a season of publication, a geographic location of the requesting user, document server features/limitations and/or content provider usage criteria.

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34. A storage device according to claim 32, wherein the virtual editor service encapsulates received content objects in a unique, non-invasive wrapper uniquely identifying each of the content objects.

10 **35.** A storage medium according to claim 34, wherein the virtual editor receives indications denoting distribution, receipt and user disposition of one or more content objects distributed with the publication to the requesting user through a document delivery system.

15 **36.** A storage medium according to claim 35, wherein the virtual editor updates user profile information based, at least in part, on the received indications.

37. A storage medium according to claim 35, wherein the virtual editor initiates financial transactions with one or more select content providers based, at least in 20 part, on the received indications.